CCRB INVESTIGATIVE RECOMMENDATION

	Team:	CCRB Case #:	lΩ	Force	$\overline{\mathbf{V}}$	Discourt	☐ U.S.
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	Squad #8	202004470		Abuse	V	U.L.	☐ Injury
	Location of Incident:	•	P	Precinct:	18	Mo. SOL	EO SOL
	Outside § 87(2)(b)	The Bronx		52	12	2/2/2021	5/4/2022
	CV Reported At:	How CV Reported:		Date/Time	Rece	eived at CC	RB
	IAB	Phone		Mon, 06/2	2/202	0 11:37 Al	M
Type	Home Addre	ess					
	Home Addre	ess					
Shield	TaxID	Command					-
07819	961961	052 PCT					
00234	939856	052 PCT					
20648	959317	052 PCT					
00000	925647	052 PCT					
08922	961791	052 PCT					
Shield N	o Tax No	Cmd Name					
501	942912	052 PCT					
28619	939566	052 PCT					
01063	942941	052 PCT					
16430	959934	052 PCT					
11607	955191	052 PCT					
18460	966746	052 PCT					
05409	960981	052 PCT					
21706	959590	052 PCT					
03060	943624	052 PCT					
12923	962063	052 PCT					
Allegatio	on			Inve	stiga	tor Recor	nmendation
Abuse: L	ieutenant Hugh Macker	nzie stopped § 87(2)(b)					
Abuse: L	Abuse: Lieutenant Hugh Mackenzie stopped individuals.						
	Abuse: Sergeant Frank Aliffi searched § 87(2)(b)						
Abuse: P	olice Officer Garry Tun	na frisked individual	s.				
•							
Abuse: P	olice Officer Christophe						
	ergeant Frank Aliffi sea	arched § 87(2)(b)					
	Shield 07819 00234 20648 00000 08922 Shield N 501 28619 01063 16430 11607 18460 05409 21706 03060 12923 Allegation Abuse: L Abuse: L Abuse: S Abuse: P Abuse: P individua	Cocation of Incident: Outside \$87(2)(b)	Squad #8 202004470	Squad #8 202004470 ✓	Squad #8 202004470	Squad #8 202004470	Cocation of Incident:

Officer(s)	Allegation	Investigator Recommendation
H.POM Garry Tuma	Off. Language: Police Officer Garry Tuma made remarks to individuals based upon the gender of individuals.	
I.POM Garry Tuma	Discourtesy: Police Officer Garry Tuma spoke discourteously to individuals.	
J.SGT Frank Aliffi	Force: Sergeant Frank Aliffi used physical force against § 87(2)(b)	
K.POM Christophe Montera	Force: Police Officer Christopher Montera used physical force against \$87(2)(b)	
L.POM Garry Tuma	Force: Police Officer Garry Tuma used physical force against \$87(2)(b)	
M.POM Christophe Montera	Discourtesy: Police Officer Christopher Montera spoke discourteously to individuals.	
N.POM Garry Tuma	Abuse: Police Officer Garry Tuma threatened to arrest individuals.	
O.POM Robert Glynn	Force: Police Officer Robert Glynn used physical force against \$87(2)(b)	

Case Summary

filed this complaint via telephone with IAB. The CCRB

received this case on June 22, 2020, and was assigned case number 202004470. On June 2, 2020, at approximately 10:40 PM, which was after the then-in-effect Mayoral curfew, and a group of people were outside § 87(2)(b) in the Bronx after a barbeque. Multiple members of service (MOS) from the 52nd Precinct, led by Lieutenant Hugh Mackenzie, including Sergeant Frank Aliffi, Police Officer Christopher Montera, and Police Officer Garry Tuma approached this group while on patrol (Allegations A & B: Abuse of Authority – . Sgt. Aliffi allegedly searched \$87(2)(6) (Allegation C: Abuse of Authority – Search, 87(2)(9). PO Tuma allegedly frisked individuals and searched other individuals (Allegations D: Abuse of Authority – Frisk, \$37(2)(8) and d & Allegation E: Abuse of Authority – Search, \$87(2)(g) . PO Montera also allegedly searched individuals. (Allegation F: Abuse of Authority – Search, § 87(2)(g) After these alleged searches, Sgt. Aliffi searched \$87(2)(b) searched searched searched searches alleged searches, Sgt. Aliffi searched building (Allegation G: Abuse of Authority – Vehicle Search, §87(2)(g)). Around the time Sgt. Aliffi opened the door and throughout the rest of the incident, PO Tuma used words such as "bitch" and "pussy" when speaking to civilians (Allegation H: Offensive Language - Gender,). PO Tuma also used profanity when speaking to civilians shortly after arriving and would continue to use the word "fuck" and its variants until the end of the interaction. (Allegation I: Discourtesy – Word, § 87(2)(g) At that point an angry \$87(2)(6) should at Sgt. Aliffi, telling him to get out of his car while standing very close and clapping his hands, which caused Sgt. Aliffi to shove §87(2)(b) chest (Allegation J: Physical Force – Pushed/Shoved/Threw. § 87(2)(g) . At that point, PO Montera and PO Tuma attempted to separate \$87(2)(b) from Sgt. Aliffi and a shoving match ensued (Allegations K & L: Physical Force – Pushed/Shoved/Threw, \$87(2)(g)). At that point PO Montera also used profanity when speaking to civilians (Allegation M: Discourtesy – Word, $\S 87(2)(g)$). Officers called for additional units and Sergeant William O'Toole, Sergeant James O'Brien, Police Officer Shawn Romero and Police Officer Robert Glynn, among others, also of the 52nd Precinct responded. Officers instructed the civilians to go inside and PO Tuma said anyone who is not inside would be "going." (Allegation N: Abuse of Authority – Threat of Arrest, \$87(2)(9) did not go inside so PO Tuma and PO Montera placed him in handcuffs after a brief physical struggle. Once in custody, §87(2)(b) was transported to the 52nd Precinct stationhouse by Sgt. O'Brien, PO Romero, and PO Glynn. While in the backseat, PO Glynn allegedly punched the handcuffed \$87(2)(b) (Allegation O: Physical Force – Punched/Kicked/Kneed, \$37(2)(9) . At the stationhouse, \$37(2)(9) received a summons for Disorderly Conduct and was released a few hours later.

On June 3, 2020, § 87(2)(b)

The NYPD Legal Department provided nine Body-Worn Camera (BWC) videos in regards to this incident. (**Board Review 1**) provided three cell phone videos in regards to this incident also. (**Board Review 2**, **Board Review 3** & **Board Review 4**)

Findings and Recommendations

Allegation A: Abuse of Authority: Lieutenant Hugh Mackenzie stopped \$87(2)(6)
Allegation B: Abuse of Authority: Lieutenant Hugh Mackenzie stopped individuals.
Allegation C: Abuse of Authority: Sergeant Frank Aliffi searched 887(2)(6)
Allegation D: Abuse of Authority: Police Officer Garry Tuma frisked individuals.
Allegation E: Abuse of Authority: Police Officer Garry Tuma searched individuals.
Allegation F: Abuse of Authority: Police Officer Christopher Montera searched individuals.
Allegation G: Abuse of Authority: Sergeant Frank Aliffi searched 857(2)(6)
vehicle.
Allegation H: Offensive Language: Police Officer Garry Tuma made remarks to individuals
based upon the gender of individuals.
Allegation I: Discourtesy: Police Officer Garry Tuma spoke discourteously to individuals.
Allegation J: Force: Sergeant Frank Aliffi used physical force against 887(2)(b)
Allegation K: Force: Police Officer Christopher Montera used physical force against §87(2)(6)
Allegation L: Force: Police Officer Garry Tuma used physical force against 887(2)(6)
Allegation M: Discourtesy: Police Officer Christopher Montera spoke discourteously to
individuals.
Allegation N: Abuse of Authority: Police Officer Garry Tuma threatened to arrest
individuals.
Allegation O: Force: Police Officer Robert Glynn used physical force against 857(2)(6)

In his statement to the CCRB, \$37(2)(6) said he and some friends were packing folding furniture and a domino game box into his white four-door Honda Accord parked almost directly in front of the entrance to \$37(2)(6) after a backyard barbeque on the night of June 2, 2020. (Board Review 5) Sgt. Aliffi's BWC shows \$37(2)(6) saying he wants to turn his car off at timestamp 2:00, indicating it was on at the time. (Board Review 6) A city-wide curfew was in place beginning at 8:00 PM that night until 5:00 AM the next morning and allowed MOS to issue C-Summonses for Administrative Code 3-108, Violating a Mayoral Emergency Order. (Board Review 7) While there were some exceptions to the curfew, \$37(2)(6) and the civilians he was with did not fall into these categories such as essential workers, the homeless and those seeking medical attention. \$37(2)(6) acknowledged he was aware of the curfew in his initial call to IAB at timestamp 4:39 but thought it would not be an issue if he were only packing his car. (Board Review 8) In his statement to the CCRB, Sgt. Aliffi explained the curfew stemmed from the previous night's rioting and looting. (Board Review 9) He said upon seeing a group of about ten men around \$337(2)(6) acknowledged he was on, he and the other MOS on patrol, including

Lieutenant Hugh Mackenzie, PO Tuma and PO Montera stopped to tell them to go inside. Not only were they out beyond curfew but they were playing loud music from stopped to Sgt. Aliffi, he initially had no intention to take any law enforcement action beyond having the crowd disperse since he did not want the rioting to continue from the night before. PO Tuma also said the only reason to approach the group was to get them to go inside, citing the curfew, but they became argumentative, asking why they had to leave which caused PO Tuma to reiterate the curfew. (Board Review 10) Sgt. Aliffi described the way they asked these civilians to disperse and go inside as peaceful and calm. (Board Review 9)

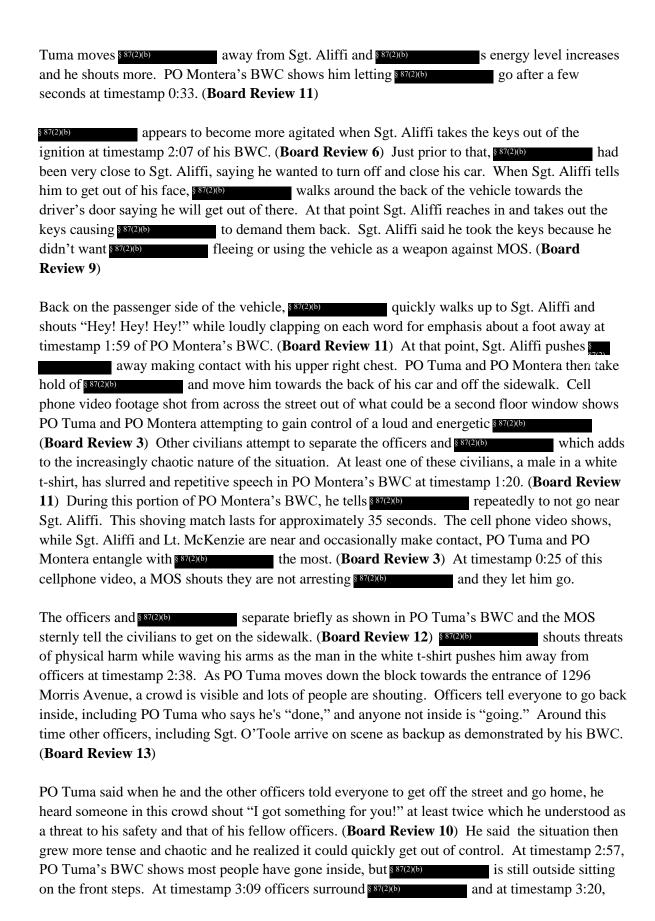
said three officers, identified via BWC as Sgt. Aliffi, PO Tuma and PO Montera searched and his friends by feeling over their clothes and took items out of their pockets. (Board Review 5) Sgt. Aliffi said he did not remember searching anyone and his BWC only shows PO Tuma patting over one civilian's clothes at timestamp 0:24 (Board Review 9 & Board Review 6) Sgt. Aliffi's BWC begins when he exits his vehicle and while he briefly speaks to solution he does not search him. The civilians are on the sidewalk and solution solutions, however PO Tuma and PO Montera's BWCs do not record their approach to the group and begin on the sidewalk. PO Tuma did not remember if he searched or frisked anyone at that point, but said he probably searched solutions later once he was handcuffed before placing him in an RMP, but he was unsure. (Board Review 10)

Both Sgt. Aliffi and PO Tuma stated they detected marijuana when they approached the group.

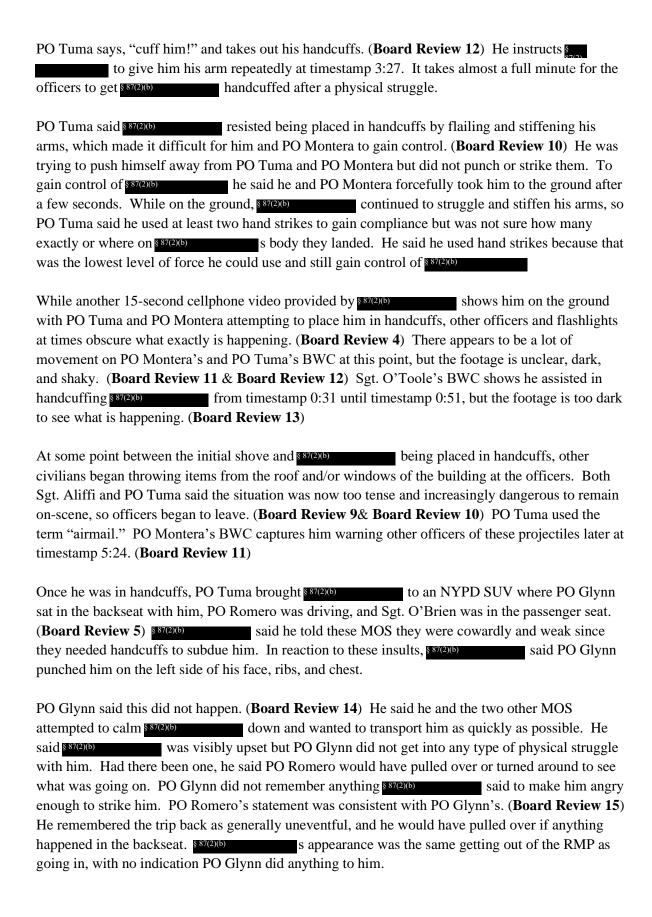
(Board Review 9 & Board Review 10) PO Tuma said he smelled it coming from some source. He did not remember if it was burning or fresh marijuana but recalled an opaque smoke in the air. Sgt. Aliffi recalled the strong odor of burning marijuana coming from the vehicle when he was a few feet away but could not remember if he saw anyone smoking. (Board Review 9) PO Montera's BWC indicates the presence of marijuana because, at timestamp 1:50, he says he appreciates a cooperating civilian and will take no action on the marijuana. (Board Review 11)

Due to this odor, Sgt. Aliffi said he was justified in searching sychicle. (Board Review 9) His BWC shows him opening sychicle. (Board Review 6) During his brief search of the vehicle, he believes he found small crumbs of marijuana in the passenger seat area and remembers smoke in the car. (Board Review 9) However, his BWC does not show this evidence. (Board Review 6)

as being very angry at Sgt. Aliffi for being near his car and admitted he was very upset. (**Board Review 10** & **Board Review 5**) For approximately two minutes from 0:40 until timestamp 2:34 in Sgt. Aliffi's BWC, SST(2)(6) argues with the MOS about the search as Sgt. Aliffi goes in and around the passenger seat. (**Board Review 6**) During this time, SST(2)(6) gets louder and more animated, other civilians become more involved, and everyone talks over one another. At one point at timestamp 1:05, PO



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BWC by Sgt. O'Brien and PO Romero captured the ride back to the stationhouse. (**Board Review 16 & Board Review 17**) While they are facing forward, there are no sounds of struggle coming from the back seat and sounds relatively calm. He insults the officers with whom he struggled on Morris Avenue but says he is no threat to the MOS in the car.

Once at the stationhouse, \$87(2)(6) received a summons for disorderly conduct from PO Tuma with a note in the narrative saying "AT TPO DEFT WAS ACTING IN AVIOLENT [sic] MANNER AND THREATENING MANNER TOWARDS PD." (Board Review 18) When he was released, he called IAB to file this complaint. (Board Review 5)

Throughout the incident, PO Tuma and PO Montera use profanity during some of the more chaotic portions. Examples from PO Tuma's BWC are at timestamp 0:52 when he tells the man in the white t-shirt that another civilian needs to "fuckin' go inside," and just after street aggressively approaches Sgt. Aliffi, PO Tuma says, "You don't touch a fuckin' cop!" (**Board Review 12**) During the first shoving match, PO Tuma says, "Shut the fuck up" at timestamp 2:05 and to "fuckin' stop," at timestamp 2:14. While attempting to place him in custody PO Tuma instructs street insults him his "fuckin' arm" repeatedly at timestamp 3:27. Once in custody, street insults him and the other officers, to which PO Tuma tells him to "shut the fuck up" at timestamp 4:15 and to get in the "fucking car" at timestamp 5:29

PO Montera uses less profanity than PO Tuma on his own BWC footage. After \$37(2)(6) threatens the officers at timestamp 2:37, the man in the white t-shirt evidentially informs the officers that \$37(2)(6) is intoxicated and PO Montera says he doesn't care if he's "fucked up, you don't do that" at timestamp 2:50. (**Board Review 11**) At timestamp 3:24, as he walks towards the building he says "fuck you, get back inside" to an angry and shouting \$37(2)(6)

PO Tuma also uses insults based on gender towards civilians. Shortly after the audio turns on at timestamp 0:30 in his BWC, he yells, "That's what I thought, bitch," at a male civilian who has run away. (**Board Review 12**) A few seconds later he repeats this person is a "bitch" and adds he is also a "pussy." Another civilian says the man is a pussy and PO Tuma says, "I know he's a pussy!" while walking away at timestamp 0:54. He also calls someone a "pussy" twice at timestamp 2:50 and at timestamp 2:57 again refers to someone as a "bitch."

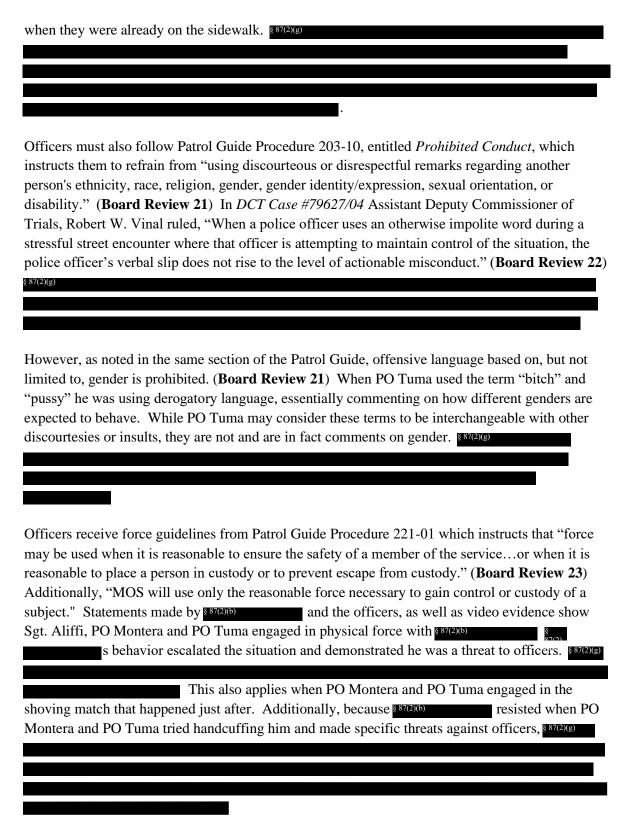
PO Tuma said he used strong language and profanity to assert authority and called at least one male civilian a "bitch" and a "pussy" to show he was serious. (**Board Review 10**) He did not consider these words to be different from other swears, nor did he think they were gendered. He said there are no criteria or behaviors that would classify someone as a "bitch" or a "pussy" and did not intend for these insults to mean he was calling a male a female or that a male was acting like a female.

Patrol Guide 212-11 entitled *Investigative Encounters* allows officers to stop civilians based on reasonable suspicion which exists when "information known to the member of the service would make [them] believe that a felony or Penal Law misdemeanor has been, is being or is about to be committed." (**Board Review 19**) The curfew from 8:00 PM until 5:00 AM allowed MOS to issue C-Summonses by stating "while the curfew is in effect, people and vehicles are not allowed in

(Board Review 7) § 87(2)(g)
§ 87(2)(g)
Patrol Guide 212-11 also instructs officers on when they can search a civilian during a stop. With consent, an officer may search a person. (Board Review 19) It also says if officers have a reasonable suspicion a civilian has a weapon based feeling over their clothes, they may search the person further. As Sgt. Aliffi's BWC shows, he never searched anyone from when he got out of he vehicle until he turned it off after the struggle with \$87(2)(6) BWC by PO Tuma and PO Montera recorded beyond where Sgt. Aliffi stopped and do not show anyone searching until officers handcuff him and bring him to an RMP for transport by other MOS.
People v. Chestnut, 43 A.D.2d 260 ruled the smell of marihuana smoke, with nothing more, can be sufficient to provide police officers with probable cause to search an automobile and its occupants (Board Review 20) Since both Sgt. Aliffi and PO Tuma said they smelled marijuana coming from the vehicle, the BWCs show officers talking to civilians about marijuana, and given that both and Sgt. Aliffi said people were moving in and out of the car, meaning the doors would have been open around the time the officers approached, \$\frac{857(2)(9)}{2}\$
In terms of searches and frisks, only PO Tuma appears to be feeling over someone's clothes towards the beginning of Sgt. Aliffi's BWC. He could not remember who he frisked, or when, an was unable to provide further details. Because BWC footage shows the vehicle as unoccupied,
Additionally, while Sgt. Aliffi's BWC shows PO Tuma frisking an individual, there is no indication
of him going into the civilian's pockets. PO Montera and PO Tuma's BWC, which as stated above capture almost the entire incident until \$372,000 is brought to an RMP with other MOS. do

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not show them searching anyone either. It is possible, however, these officers performed searches of civilians that were not on BWC since PO Tuma's and PO Montera's BWCs began recording



Patrol Guide 221-01 also states that MOS are prohibited from "any level of force on handcuffed or otherwise restrained subjects unless necessary to prevent injury, escape or to overcome active

physical resistance or assault." (**Board Review 23**) Based on PO Glynn's and PO Romero's statements regarding the transportation back to the stationhouse and BWC by PO Romero and Sgt. O'Toole, PO Glynn does not appear to have used any force while in the backseat with As PO Romero and PO Glynn stated, had there been signs of struggle or force in the backseat, PO Romero would have almost certainly pulled over to see what was happening. §87(2)(9)

Civilian and Officer CCRB Histories

- Lt. Hugh Mackenzie has been a member of service for 21 years and has been the subject in 10 CCRB complaints and 19 allegations, two of which were substantiated (**Board Review 24**):
 - 200505991 involved substantiated allegations of Abuse Question and/or Stop and Abuse - Search (of person) against Lt. Mackenzie. The Board recommended charges and the NYPD imposed instructions.
 - S 87(2)(g)
- Sgt. Frank Aliffi has been a member of service for 15 years and has been the subject in 13 CCRB complaints and 44 allegations, none of which were substantiated.
- PO Christopher Montera has been a member of service for five years and has been the subject in six CCRB complaints and nine allegations, none of which were substantiated.

 \$87(2)(g)
- PO Gary Tuma has been a member of service for six years and has been the subject in eight CCRB complaints and 19 allegations, none of which were substantiated. [SST(2)(3)]
- PO Robert Glynn has been a member of service for five years and this is the first CCRB complaint to which he has been a subject. (**Board Review 28**)
- This is the first complaint to which \$87(2)(6) has been a party. (**Board Review** 29)

Mediation, Civil and Criminal Histories

- § 87(2)(b) rejected mediation.
- filed a Notice of Claim with the City of New York claiming personal injuries including but not limited to injuries to ribs, face, head, neck, back, chest, abdomen, arms, legs the full extent of which is not presently known, emotional distress, anxiety, panic attacks, anguish, loss of enjoyment of life and seeking \$10 Million as redress (**Board Review 30**). There is no 50H hearing scheduled.

§ 87(2)(b)			
Squad No.:	7_		
Investigator:	Nicholas Venduras Signature	Inv. Nicholas Venduras Print Title & Name	<u>August 10, 2021</u> Date
		Manager Vanessa Rosen	August 20, 2021
Squad Leader	:Signature	Print Title & Name	Date
Reviewer:	Signature	Print Title & Name	Date